

2001-014-718

June 29, 2001

General Services Administration  
FAR Secretariat (MVP)  
1800 F Street, N.W., Room 4035  
Washington, D.C. 20405

Re: FAR Case 2001-014

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my opposition to the Bush administration's proposal to repeal the Clinton administration's rules on federal contractor responsibility. The rules require contracting officers to look at a company's record of complying with the law in deciding whether the company is a "responsible contractor" eligible to receive a federal contract.

As a taxpayer, I want my tax dollars to go to responsible companies that comply with the law, not to corporate lawbreakers. Companies that routinely violate laws designed to protect the environment, consumers, workers and other important rights shouldn't be rewarded with valuable federal contracts. This serves as an horrendous example to companies that do comply with the law as well as to our communities and citizens, and allows chronic violators to profit from their lawbreaking.

A company's track record of complying with the law should be an important factor in deciding whether the company deserves a federal contract. Companies that continuously disregard worker safety and health, fail to pay minimum wages and overtime as required by the law, or violate other laws providing fundamental protections to workers shouldn't be rewarded with federal contracts. As well companies with track records of discriminating against women, people of color, people with disabilities or others in violation of our civil rights laws shouldn't be rewarded with lucrative federal contracts.

I urge the Federal Acquisition Regulatory Council not to repeal the contractor responsibility rules and to let the rules go into effect without further delay.

Sincerely,

  
Jeanne B. Lawler